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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

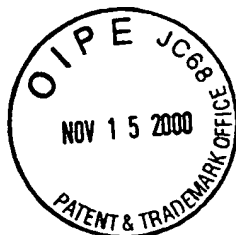
In re Application of :

DITCH et al.

Serial No.: 09/238,510

Filed: January 27, 1999

For: Tie Down for Wheelchairs



Art Unit: 3612

Examiner: Gordon

#5 / 11/24/00
W. Jones

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR
ELECTION AND AMENDMENT

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TO 3600 MAIL ROOM

Hon. Director of the Patent
and Trademark Office
Washington, D. C. 20231

SIR:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Please add the following new claim:

Claim 28 (New) In combination,

(a) a vehicle having an area for receiving a wheelchair, and

(b) means for securing a wheelchair in said area to said vehicle, wherein said

means for securing is permanently attached to said vehicle and comprises:

(i) means for engaging a portion of said wheelchair under tension, said means for engaging being locked to said vehicle at a predetermined location, and

(ii) a movable securing element having mounted thereon a housing and a flexible strap, said flexible strap having one end adjustably received in said housing and an opposite end adapted to engage a portion of said wheelchair in said area under tension, said movable securing element being movable with respect to said vehicle between an operating position wherein said housing is locked to said vehicle at a further location for